STATE OF MONTANA BEFORE THE BOARD OF PERSONNEL APPEALS

IN THE MATTER OF UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE NO. 3-82:

4 AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO,

Complainant,

- vs -

ORDER

GALLATIN COUNTY and all REPRESENTATIVES THEREOF, BOZEMAN, MONTANA,

Defendant.

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On January 21, 1982, AFSCME filed a complaint against
Gallatin County and all representatives thereof alleging a
refusal to bargain by the County. AFSCME represents certain
employees in the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office. On February 3,
1982, Gallatin County filed a Motion to Dismiss the complaint
alleging that the Board of Personnel Appeals had no jurisdiction
over Gallatin County.

The County reasoned, in a Brief in Support of Motion to Dismiss, as follows:

In the related case of UD 18-81, AFSCME, AFL-CIO and John Onstad, Sheriff of Gallatin County, a petition for unit determination filed by AFSCME with the Board of Personnel Appeals was served on Sheriff Onstad. The County argues that the proper parties which should have been served in that case are the commissioners of Gallatin County. The County argues that since the commissioners were not properly served in that related proceeding, that therefore the Board of Personnel Appeals does not now have jurisdiction to entertain an unfair labor practice against the County.

The County is correct. In a North Dakota Supreme Court decision construing a section of North Dakota law very similar to Rule 4 D (2)(g), M.R. Civ. P., the North Dakota Supreme

Court held that service upon the county auditor who serves as the clerk of the governing board was not sufficient service. 3 See Farrington v. Swenson (N.Dak.), 210 N. W. 2d 82 (1973). It therefore appears that service upon the sheriff was not 4 5 sufficient to constitute service upon the county commissioners. 6 It is therefore ordered as follows: 7 1. The County's Motion to Dismiss the unfair labor 8 practice charges is hereby granted. 9 2. The election held in UD 18-81 is hereby vacated and the certification of AFSCME as the exclusive representative of 10 11 certain members of the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office is 12 hereby revoked. 13 This order does not preclude the filing of another petition for unit determination and another election. 15 DATED this 19 day of April, 1982. 16 BOARD OF PERSONNEL APPEALS 17 18 19 20 21 CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 22 The undersigned does certify that a true and correct copy of this document was mailed to the following on the 20 day 23 of April, 1982: Robert R. Throssell Deputy County Attorney 25 Law & Justice Center 615 South 16th 26 Bozeman, MT 59715 27 Nadiean Jensen Executive Director 28 Montana Council No. 9 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

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